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COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES
OF OUTER SPACE

REPORT ON THE THIRTY-SIXTH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE

Addendum

II. RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS

D. Spin-off benefits of space technology: review of current status (agenda item 8)

1. In accordance with paragraph 31 of General Assembly resolution 47/67, the Committee took up the consideration of the above item.

2. The Committee agreed that spin-offs of space technology were yielding substantial benefits in many fields. The Committee noted that spin-offs of space technology were providing new techniques for the field of industrial measurement and control, image and data processing, medical techniques, computer systems, robotics, special materials and chemicals, water treatment and refrigeration.

3. The Committee noted that the importance of spin-off benefits was growing rapidly. The Committee also noted the importance of international cooperation in developing spin-off benefits of space technology and in ensuring that all countries, in particular developing countries, had access to those benefits.

4. The Committee agreed that there was a need to examine ways to strengthen and enhance international cooperation in the field of spin-off benefits of space technology, through, inter alia, improved means of providing access to spin-offs for all countries, giving particular attention to those spin-offs which could address the social and economic needs of developing countries.

5. Some delegations expressed the view that the United Nations could contribute to the development of improved procedures for disseminating spin-off benefits. They felt that the question of spin-offs was linked to the consideration in the Legal Subcommittee of the principle that the exploration and utilization of outer space should be carried out for the benefit and in the

interests of all States, taking into particular account the needs of developing countries.

6. The Committee recommended that the United Nations Programme on Space Applications consider including in at least one of its training courses, seminars or expert meetings each year the subject of the promotion of spin-off benefits from space.

7. The Committee recommended that it continue its consideration of the item at its next session.

E. Other matters

[See A/AC.105/L.202/Add.4, to be issued.]

F. Future work

8. The Committee noted the views expressed by the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, as contained in paragraphs 109 to 112 of its report (A/AC.105/543), and endorsed the recommendations contained in those paragraphs concerning the agenda of the thirty-first session of the Subcommittee.

9. Regarding the agenda of the Legal Subcommittee, the Committee recommended that the Subcommittee, at its thirty-third session, should:

(a) Continue, through its Working Group, consideration of the question of early review and possible revision of the principles relevant to the use of nuclear power sources in outer space;

(b) Continue, through its Working Group, consideration of matters relating to the definition and delimitation of outer space and to the character and utilization of the geostationary orbit, including consideration of ways and means to ensure the rational and equitable use of the geostationary orbit without prejudice to the role of ITU;

(c) Continue, through its Working Group, consideration of the legal aspects related to the application of the principle that the exploration and utilization of outer space should be carried out for the benefit and in the interests of all States, taking into particular account the needs of developing countries.

10. The Committee recalled its recommendation that the Legal Subcommittee, on a permanent basis, should rotate each year the order of consideration of substantive agenda items.

11. The Committee took note of the measures that had been adopted at the thirty-first session of the Legal Subcommittee as well as additional measures agreed for the next session of the Subcommittee in order to improve utilization of conference services. The Committee endorsed the agreement of the Subcommittee that a similar organization of work would serve as the basis for organizing the work of the Subcommittee's thirty-third session.

G. Schedule of work of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies

12. The Committee indicated the following tentative timetable for 1994:

	Dates	Site
Scientific and Technical Subcommittee	22 February-4 March	Vienna
Legal Subcommittee	21 March-8 April	
Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space	6-17 June	Vienna

H. Tribute

13. On the occasion of the resignation of the Rapporteur of the Committee, Mr. Edmundo Sussumu Fujita, to take up other professional engagements, the members of the Committee expressed their gratitude for his service to the Committee.